

Unit 25. Upper Mulchatna Upland

Background

Land Status. This unit is owned by the state. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough. The eastern portion of the unit is adjacent to Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. A large block of mining claims is located in the Bonanza Hills.

Access. Lakes in the Chilchitna drainage provide sites for floatplane landing. Developed airstrips are located in the upper Chilchitna drainage and Bonanza Hills. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Iliamna, but much use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

Existing Development. Four cabins are located in the unit. Six sites have been used as guided/outfitted hunting camps.

Fisheries. Fisheries values are generally low.

Subsistence and sport fishing uses are low.

Wildlife. Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high; brown bear density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is nearly non-existent. Sport hunting use is very high, particularly for caribou during the fall; moose hunting use is moderate to high; brown bear hunting use is moderate. Many hunters are guided or outfitted.

Trails and Easements. The Native Trail is a possible RS-2477 right-of-way crossing into the Koksetna drainage from the Little Mulchatna River.

Other Values. The unit has very high scenic value because of the great diversity of landscape and views of highlands.

Management Intent

Semi-primitive use experience.

Management Guidelines

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site)

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited.
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site)

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit

- U25.1 Caribou Calving Habitat. This unit contains caribou calving habitat (see following map). Temporary facilities, trapping cabins, boat storage, airstrip development, temporary docks, and other long-term uses may be allowed in caribou calving habitat if, based on consultation with ADF&G, uses can be sited and operated in a manner that is not likely to cause significant impact to caribou calving.
- U25.2 Long-term Uses Associated with Mineral/Oil and Gas Activity. For long-term uses associated with mineral and oil and gas exploration and development, see Chapter 2 guideline.
- U25.3 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

Public Use Sites

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 46 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake drained by the Chilchitna River.

Site 47 Floatplane landing area on unnamed lake in the Ptarmigan Creek drainage.

Site 48 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake drained by Big Bonanza Creek.

Site 49 Campsite and floatplane landing area on an unnamed lake on the northern margin of the Bonanza Hills.

Recommendations for this Unit

None.

